

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1.-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) A picture processing method for generating magnified picture data based on original picture data recorded on a recording medium, comprising: the steps of:

reproducing said original picture data from said recording medium as a pre-zoom picture;

dividing by a picture data processor, the pre-zoom picture into a total of $M \times N$ (where M and N are integers) partial areas indicative of selectable zoom-in areas;

holding correspondence relations between a plurality of $M \times N$ zoom-in area designing keys disposed at least on either one of a main body of said image apparatus or a remote control unit thereof, ~~or and a plurality of divided and the $M \times N$ partial areas of the picture on a screen based on said original picture data,~~ respectively; and

generating said magnified picture data, based on said original picture data, corresponding to a given one of said $M \times N$ zoom-in area designing keys in response to operation of said given one of said $M \times N$ zoom-in area designing keys,

wherein the plurality of $M \times N$ zoom-in area designing keys are arrayed orderly such that the array of said plurality of $M \times N$ zoom-in area designing keys can be

associated with a plurality of said divided MxN partial areas of the picture on the screen.

23. (Currently Amended) A picture processing method according to Claim 22, wherein said plurality of MxN zoom-in area designating keys used for designating a location to be zoomed in when said zoom key is singly operated, while being used for other purposes than the designation of the location for zoom-in after another key is operated in precedence, said MxN zoom-in area designating keys including keys labeled "1 to "9" for the purpose of ten keys, respectively, and disposed in a three-row-by--three-column (3 X 3) array.

24. (Currently Amended) A picture processing method for displaying magnified picture on a screen based on original picture data recorded on a recording medium, comprising: ~~the steps of:~~

reproducing said original picture data from said recording medium as a pre-zoom picture;

dividing by a picture data processor, the pre-zoom picture into a total of MxN
(where M and N are integers) partial areas indicative of selectable zoom-in areas;
holding correspondence relations between said a plurality of MxN zoom-in
area designating keys disposed at least on either one of a main body of said an image
apparatus effecting the method or a remote control unit thereof, or and a plurality of
divided and the MxN partial areas of the picture on a screen based on said original
picture data, respectively; and

displaying on said screen said magnified picture based on said original picture data, corresponding to a given one of said MxN zoom-in area designing keys in response to operation of said given one MxN zoom-in area designing key,

wherein the plurality of MxN zoom-in area designing keys are arrayed orderly such that the array of said plurality of MxN zoom-in area designing keys can be associated with a plurality of said divided-MxN partial areas of the picture on the screen.

25. (Currently Amended) A picture processing method according to Claim 24, wherein said plurality of MxN zoom-in area designating keys used for designating a location to be zoomed in when said zoom key is singly operated, while being used for other purposes than the designation of the location for zoom-in after another key is operated in precedence, said MxN zoom-in area designating keys including keys labeled "1" to "9" for the purpose of ten keys, respectively, and disposed in a three-row-by-three-column (3 X 3) array.

26. (New) A picture processing method for reading out a first picture data from a recording medium and processing the first picture data to thereby derive second picture data for generating a zoomed-in picture on a screen by magnifying a partial area of a pre-zoom picture based on the first picture data, said picture processing method comprising the steps of:

dividing by a picture data processor the pre-zoom picture into a total of $M \times N$ (where N and N are Integer) partial areas indicative of selectable zoom-in areas;

providing a plurality of $M \times N$ zoom-in area designating keys disposed at least on either one of a main body of said picture apparatus or a remote control unit;

holding in a storage correspondence relations between said plurality of $M \times N$ zoom-in area designating keys and said plurality of $M \times N$ partial areas of the pre-zoom picture of the screen; and

generating in said picture data processor the second picture data corresponding to an operated one of said zoom-in area designating keys;

wherein relative locations of said plurality of $M \times N$ zoom-in area designating keys with respect to one another substantially correspond to relative locations of the plurality of $M \times N$ partial areas with respect to one another of the pre-zoom picture on the screen.

27. (New) A picture processing method according to Claim 24, wherein said plurality of $M \times N$ zoom-in area designating keys used for designating a location to be zoomed in when said zoom key is singly operated, while being used for other purposes than the designation of the location for zoom-in after another key is operated in precedence, said $M \times N$ zoom-in area designating keys including keys labeled "1" to "9" for the purpose of ten keys, respectively, and disposed in a three-row-by-three-column (3 X 3) array.